

**In the Abstract:**

At page 33, please delete Applicant's original "Abstract" as first filed, and substitute therefor:

**ABSTRACT**

A two-or four-pronged connector for flexibly joining adjacent mat panels through interaction with at least one hole in each mat panel. The connector has an upper member with a first and second end opposite one another. The upper member spans the distance between the holes in adjacent mat panels. Each connector has a first and second lower member with opposing inner and outer ends. A first joining member connects the first upper member end to the inner end of the first lower member. A second joining member connects the second upper member end to the second lower member inner end.